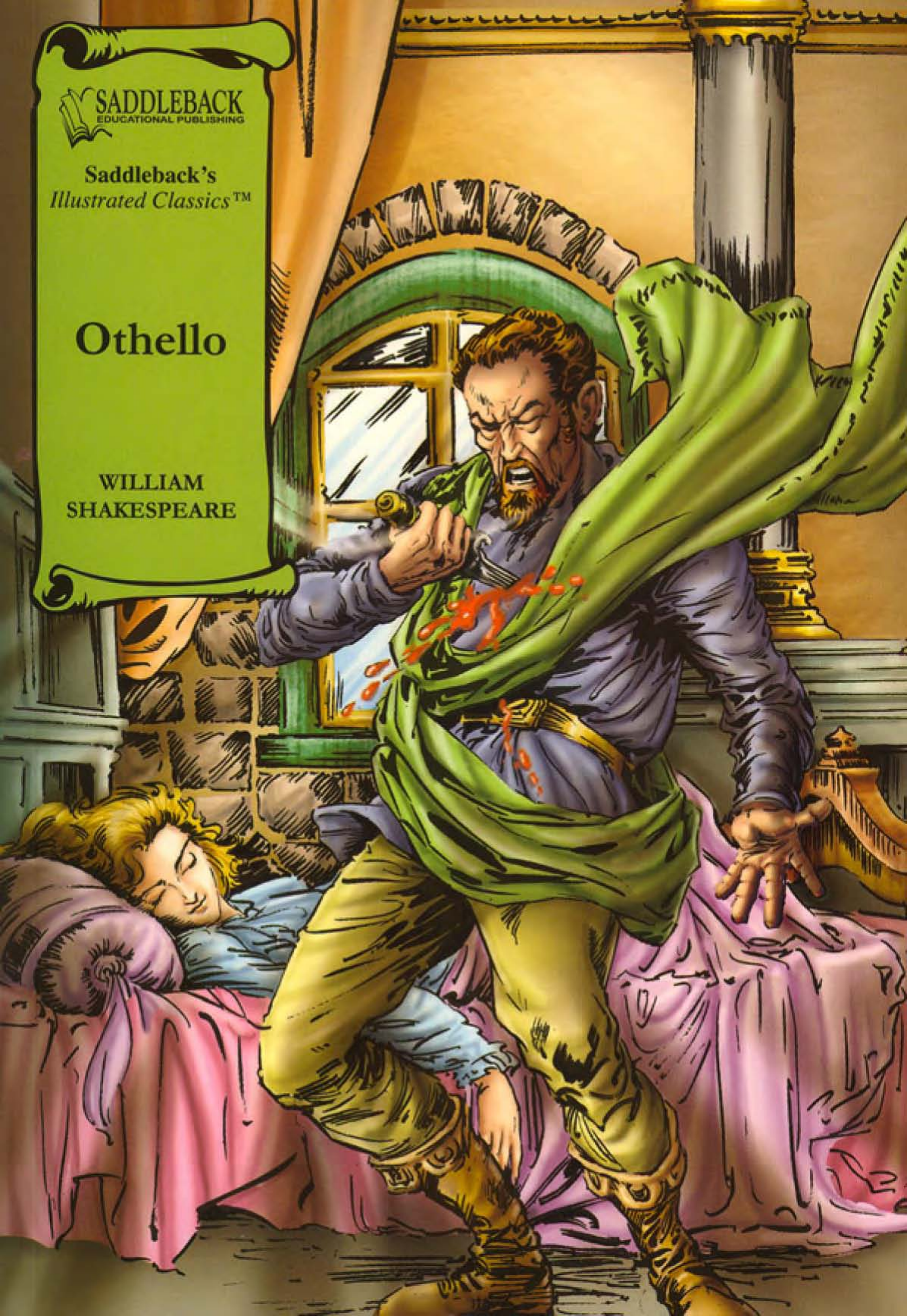
SADDLEBACK
EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING

Saddleback's
Illustrated Classics™

Othello

WILLIAM
SHAKESPEARE



Othello

William Shakespeare

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Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

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Welcome to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™

We are proud to welcome you to Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™ was designed specifically for the classroom to introduce readers to many of the great classics in literature. Each text, written and adapted by teachers and researchers, has been edited using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system. In addition, much time and effort has been spent to ensure that these high-interest stories retain all of the excitement, intrigue, and adventure of the original books.

With these graphically *Illustrated Classics*™, you learn what happens in the story in a number of different ways. One way is by reading the words a character says. Another way is by looking at the drawings of the character. The artist can tell you what kind of person a character is and what he or she is thinking or feeling.

This series will help you to develop confidence and a sense of accomplishment as you finish each novel. The stories in Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™ are fun to read. And remember, fun motivates!

Overview

Everyone deserves to read the best literature our language has to offer. Saddleback's *Illustrated Classics*™ was designed to acquaint readers with the most famous stories from the world's greatest authors, while teaching essential skills. You will learn how to:

- Establish a purpose for reading
- Activate prior knowledge
- Evaluate your reading
- Listen to the language as it is written
- Extend literary and language appreciation through discussion and writing activities.

Reading is one of the most important skills you will ever learn. It provides the key to all kinds of information. By reading the *Illustrated Classics*™, you will develop confidence and the self-satisfaction that comes from accomplishment—a solid foundation for any reader.

Remember,

"Today's readers are tomorrow's leaders."

William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was baptized on April 26, 1564, in Stratford-on-Avon, England, the third child of John Shakespeare, a well-to-do merchant, and Mary Arden, his wife. Young William probably attended the Stratford grammar school, where he learned English, Greek, and a great deal of Latin. Historians aren't sure of the exact date of Shakespeare's birth.

In 1582, Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway. By 1583 the couple had a daughter, Susanna, and two years later the twins, Hamnet and Judith. Somewhere between 1585 and 1592 Shakespeare went to London, where he became first an actor and then a playwright. His acting company, *The King's Men*, appeared most often in the *Globe* theater, a part of which Shakespeare himself owned.

In all, Shakespeare is believed to have written thirty-seven plays, several nondramatic poems, and a number of sonnets. In 1611 when he left the active life of the theater, he returned to Stratford and became a country gentleman, living in the second-largest house in town. For five years he lived a quiet life. Then, on April 23, 1616, William Shakespeare died and was buried in Trinity Church in Stratford. From his own time to the present, Shakespeare is considered one of the greatest writers of the English-speaking world.

William Shakespeare

Othello





* man-made waterways

** set along the side of something



* a title given to a noble (and usually rich) Italian citizen



* a person from the northern part of Africa


WHILE BRABANTIO WENT TO LOOK FOR HIS DAUGHTER, IAGO MADE OTHER PLANS.
I MUST LEAVE NOW SO THAT OTHELLO DOESN'T KNOW I'VE HAD ANY PART OF THIS.
BRABANTIO WAS EVEN MORE UPSET WHEN HE RETURNED.
SHE IS GONE! RODERIGO, TELL ME, ARE THEY MARRIED?
I THINK SO, SIR!
THEN HELP ME, RODERIGO! I WILL GET MY SOLDIERS AND WE WILL LOOK FOR THEM.
MEANWHILE, IAGO HURRIED TO OTHELLO AND TOLD HIM THAT HIS LIFE WAS IN DANGER.
I WANTED TO KILL BRABANTIO FOR THE BAD THINGS HE SAID ABOUT YOU!
IT'S GOOD THAT YOU DIDN'T, IAGO. I LOVE HIS DAUGHTER DESDEMONA, AND I THINK THAT HE WILL COME TO SEE MY SIDE OF THINGS.



* an island in the Mediterranean Sea near Turkey

** a group of men elected to help govern a state or country



* has something to do with


SHE IS AS GOOD AS DEAD TO ME. SHE HAS BEEN STOLEN AWAY BY MAGIC.
WHOEVER HAS DONE THIS WILL BE PUNISHED—EVEN IF IT SHOULD BY MY OWN SON!
I THANK YOU, SIR! HERE IS THE MAN, THIS MOOR!
OTHELLO, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY?
IT IS TRUE THAT I HAVE MARRIED THIS MAN'S DAUGHTER—AND THAT I LOVE HER.
BUT I BEG YOU, SEND FOR DESDEMONA AND LET HER TELL YOU WHETHER I USED MAGIC TO WIN HER LOVE.
BRING DESDEMONA HERE!

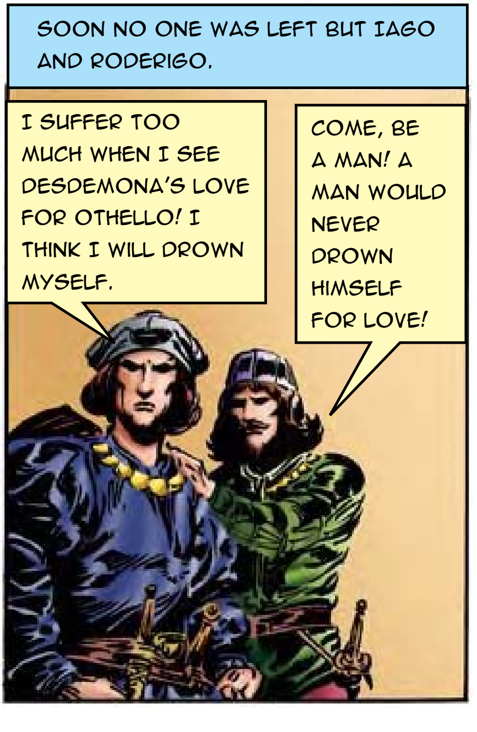

GOOD IAGO, PLEASE GO FOR DESDEMONA. UNTIL SHE COMES, I WILL TELL MY PART OF THE STORY.
TELL US OTHELLO.
MANY TIMES BRABANTIO, HER FATHER, INVITED ME TO HIS HOUSE. HE ALWAYS ASKED ME QUESTIONS ABOUT MY LIFE AND THE BATTLES I HAVE FOUGHT ALL OVER THE WORLD.
DESDEMONA LISTENED AS OFTEN AS SHE COULD. HER EYES, AS THEY LOOKED UPON ME, BEGAN TO SHOW HER LOVE.
I THINK MY VERY OWN DAUGHTER WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME.
PLEASE HEAR DESDEMONA SPEAK. COME, CHILD, TELL THIS GROUP ABOUT THE PERSON YOU SHOULD MOST OBEY.



* place something or someone in another's care





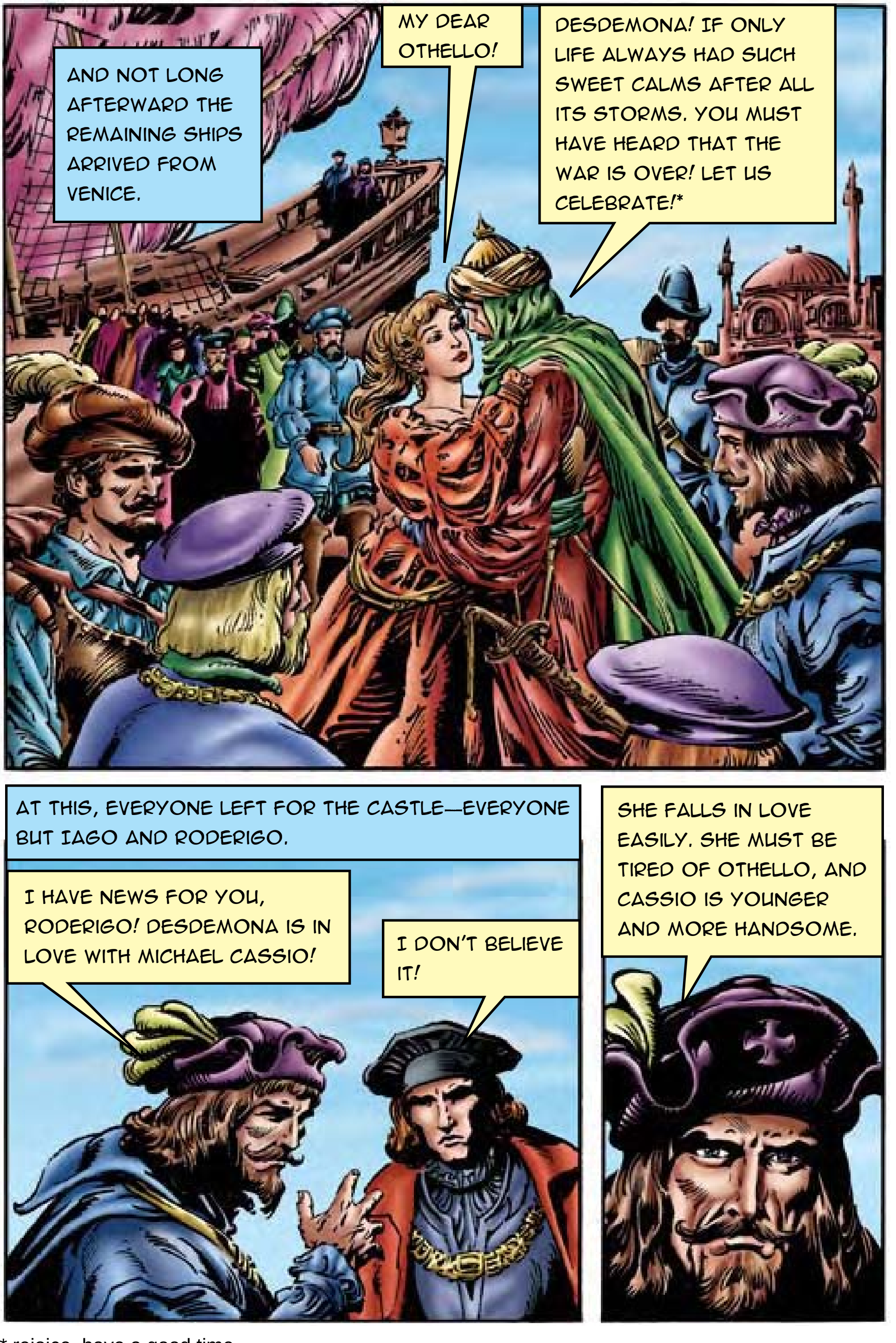


* fooled, tricked

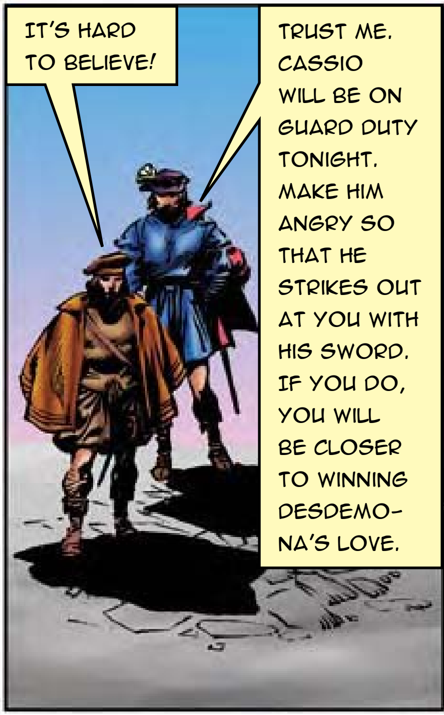


* getting even with someone

** wanting what someone else has



* rejoice, have a good time

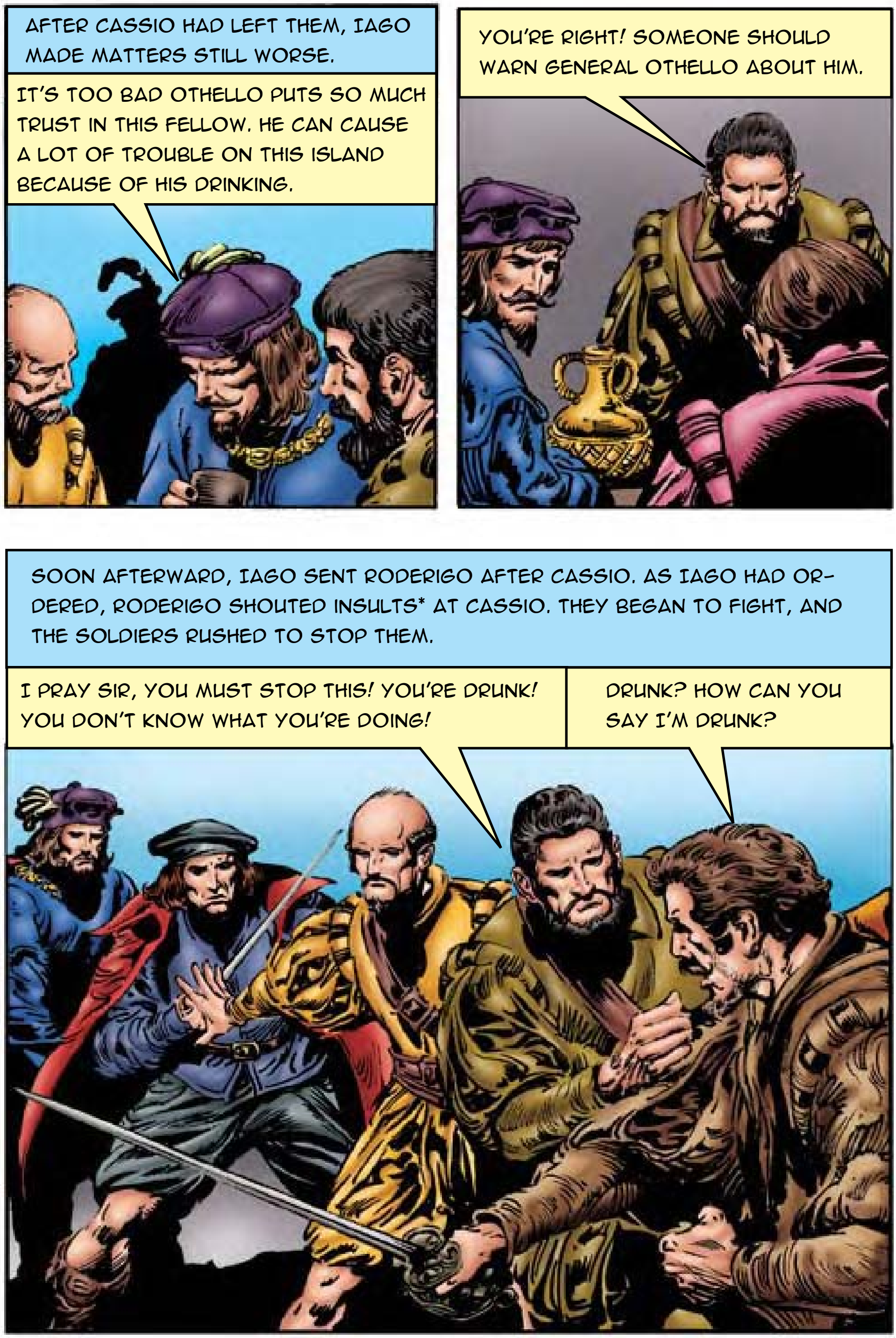

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE!
TRUST ME. CASSIO WILL BE ON GUARD DUTY TONIGHT. MAKE HIM ANGRY SO THAT HE STRIKES OUT AT YOU WITH HIS SWORD. IF YOU DO, YOU WILL BE CLOSER TO WINNING DESDEMO-NA'S LOVE.


WHEN RODERIGO HAD LEFT, IAGO CONTINUED TO PLAN.
I AM SURE THAT CASSIO IS IN LOVE WITH DESDEMONA. I THINK I CAN MAKE OTHELLO SO JEALOUS THAT HE WILL PLAY RIGHT INTO MY HANDS!

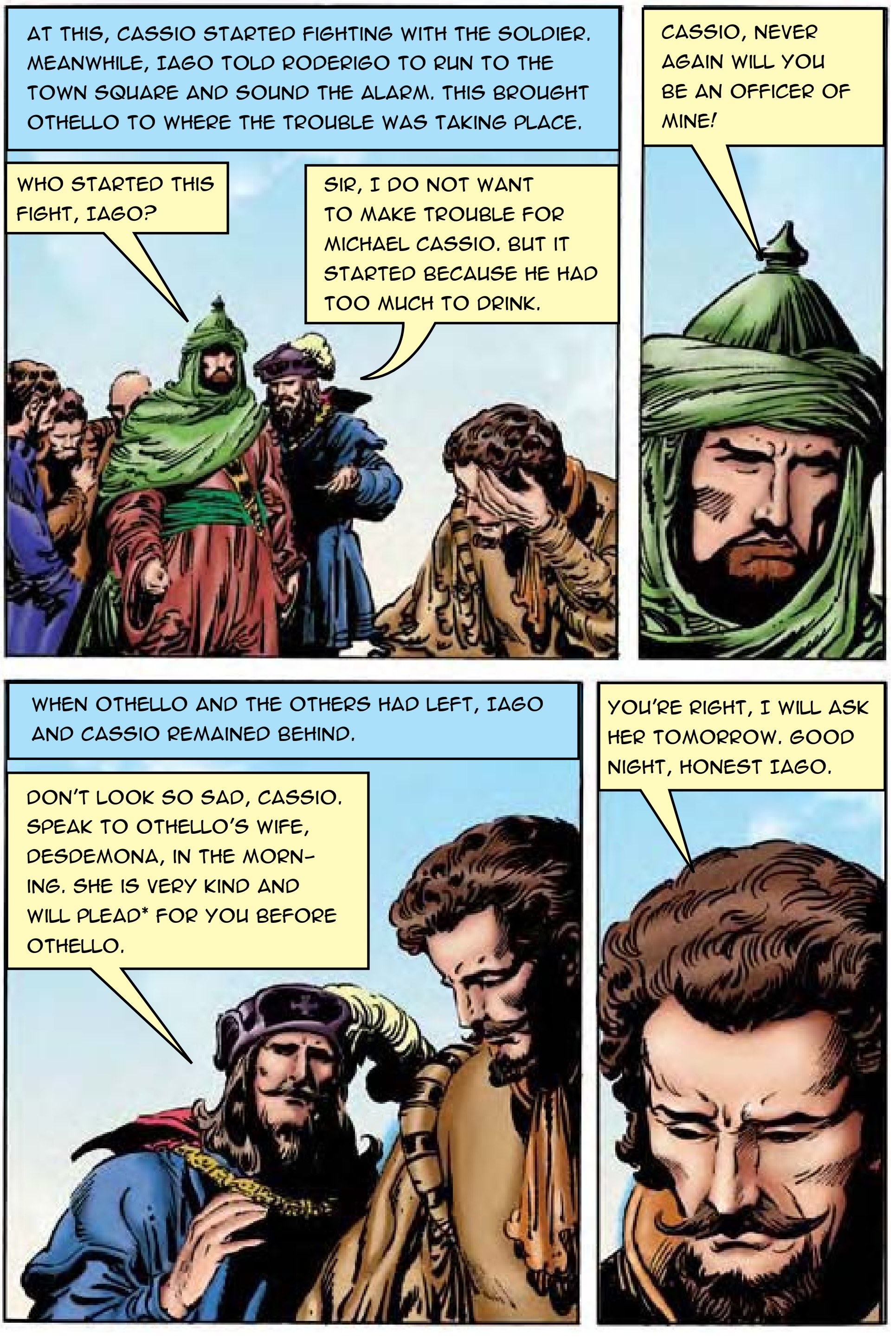

THAT NIGHT THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS WERE INVITED TO A GREAT FEAST AT THE CASTLE. THEY WOULD CELEBRATE THE END OF THE WAR WITH TURKEY AS WELL AS OTHELLO'S RECENT MARRIAGE.
CASSIO, YOU ARE IN CHARGE OF THE GUARD TONIGHT. MAKE SURE THAT EVERYTHING REMAINS PEACEFUL.


BUT LATER, WHEN CASSIO MET IAGO, IAGO HAD PLANNED A TRAP FOR HIM.
WELCOME, IAGO. LET US GO TO OUR WATCH.
IT IS TOO EARLY. LET US FIRST HAVE A DRINK WITH SOME OF THE CYPRUS SOLDIERS.
NOT TONIGHT, IAGO. I GET DRUNK VERY EASILY, AND I'VE HAD ONE DRINK ALREADY. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NIGHT FOR ME TO STAY SOBER.*
NONSENSE! ONE MORE DRINK WON'T HURT.
BEFORE LONG, CASSIO WAS DRUNK.
DO NOT THINK, GENTLEMAN, THAT I HAVE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK. THIS IS MY LEFT HAND, AND THIS IS MY RIGHT. AND I THINK I CAN STILL WALK AND CAN GO TO MY WATCH.

* not drunk



* words that hurt or upset another person


AT THIS, CASSIO STARTED FIGHTING WITH THE SOLDIER. MEANWHILE, IAGO TOLD RODERIGO TO RUN TO THE TOWN SQUARE AND SOUND THE ALARM. THIS BROUGHT OTHELLO TO WHERE THE TROUBLE WAS TAKING PLACE.
WHO STARTED THIS FIGHT, IAGO?
SIR, I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE TROUBLE FOR MICHAEL CASSIO. BUT IT STARTED BECAUSE HE HAD TOO MUCH TO DRINK.
CASSIO, NEVER AGAIN WILL YOU BE AN OFFICER OF MINE!
WHEN OTHELLO AND THE OTHERS HAD LEFT, IAGO AND CASSIO REMAINED BEHIND.
DON'T LOOK SO SAD, CASSIO. SPEAK TO OTHELLO'S WIFE, DESDEMONA, IN THE MORNING. SHE IS VERY KIND AND WILL PLEAD* FOR YOU BEFORE OTHELLO.
YOU'RE RIGHT, I WILL ASK HER TOMORROW. GOOD NIGHT, HONEST IAGO.

* beg

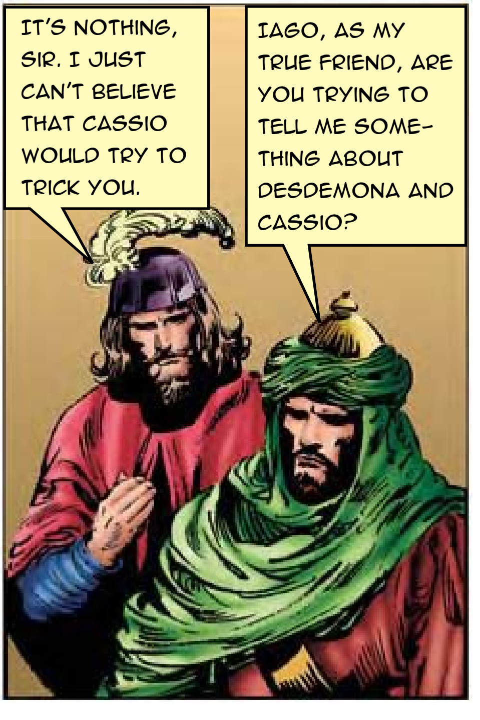


* having committed a crime







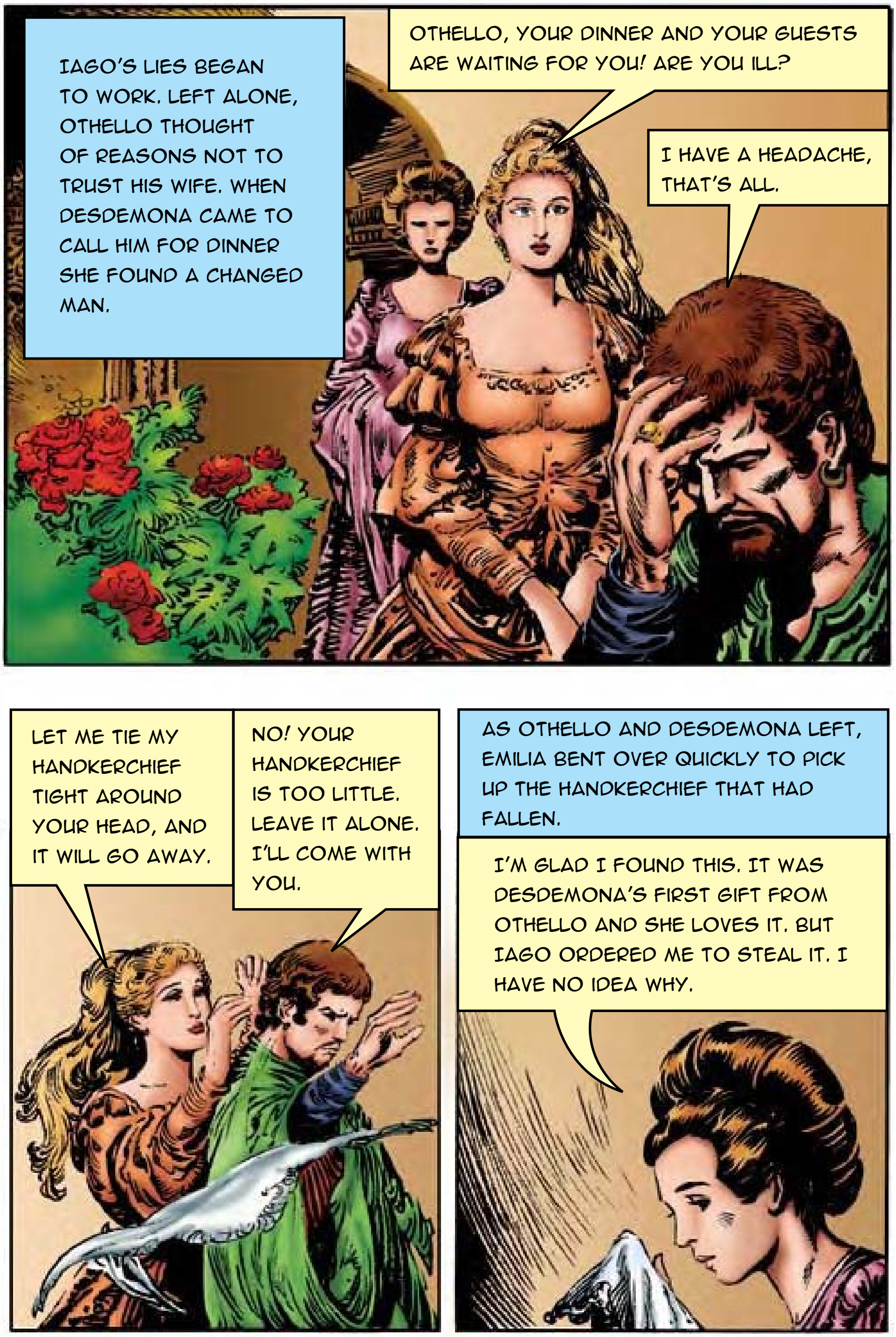


* keep from having

** made up one's mind to do something



* help, warning


IAGO'S LIES BEGAN TO WORK. LEFT ALONE, OTHELLO THOUGHT OF REASONS NOT TO TRUST HIS WIFE. WHEN DESDEMONA CAME TO CALL HIM FOR DINNER SHE FOUND A CHANGED MAN.
OTHELLO, YOUR DINNER AND YOUR GUESTS ARE WAITING FOR YOU! ARE YOU ILL?
I HAVE A HEADACHE, THAT'S ALL.
LET ME TIE MY HANDKERCHIEF TIGHT AROUND YOUR HEAD, AND IT WILL GO AWAY.
NO! YOUR HANDKERCHIEF IS TOO LITTLE. LEAVE IT ALONE. I'LL COME WITH YOU.
AS OTHELLO AND DESDEMONA LEFT, EMILIA BENT OVER QUICKLY TO PICK UP THE HANDKERCHIEF THAT HAD FALLEN.
I'M GLAD I FOUND THIS. IT WAS DESDEMONA'S FIRST GIFT FROM OTHELLO AND SHE LOVES IT. BUT IAGO ORDERED ME TO STEAL IT. I HAVE NO IDEA WHY.



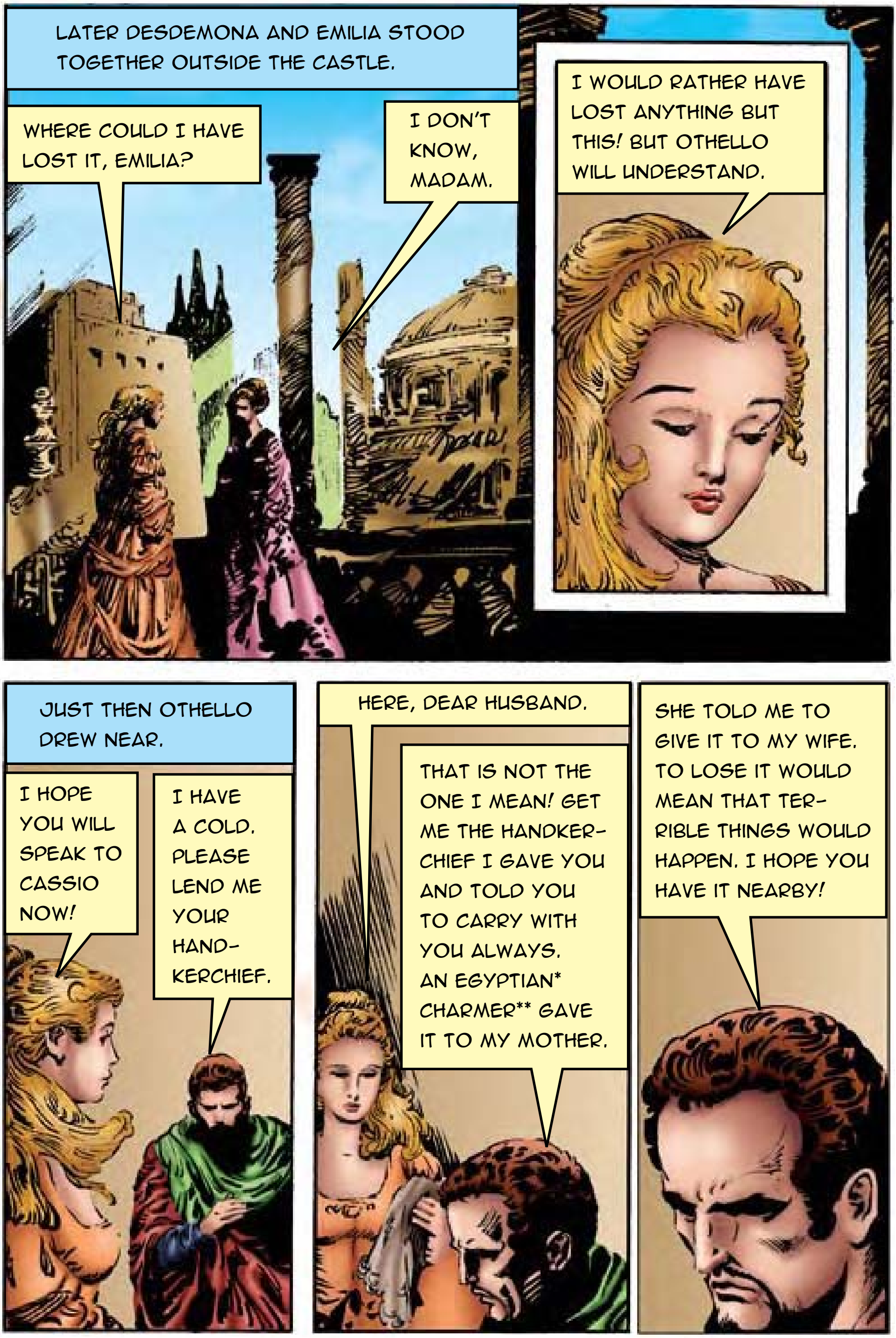
* hurt greatly


YOU HAD BETTER SHOW ME PROOF THAT WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, OR YOU WILL DIE!
O WORLD, TAKE NOTE! IT DOES NOT PAY TO BE AN HONEST MAN!
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO TRUST YOU—MY GOOD FRIEND, OR HER—MY DARLING WIFE. GIVE ME PROOF OF WHAT YOU SAY!
FOR TWO NIGHTS I SLEPT IN CASSIO'S HOUSE. TWICE I HEARD HIM CRY OUT IN HIS SLEEP, "SWEET DES-DEMONA! LET US HIDE OUR LOVE FROM OTHELLO!"
AND THERE IS SOMETHING MORE—A HANDKERCHIEF WITH STRAWBERRIES ON IT.
THAT WAS MY FIRST GIFT TO DESDEMONA.
WELL, I WOULDN'T KNOW THAT. BUT I SAW MICHAEL CASSIO WIPE HIS BEARD WITH IT TODAY!



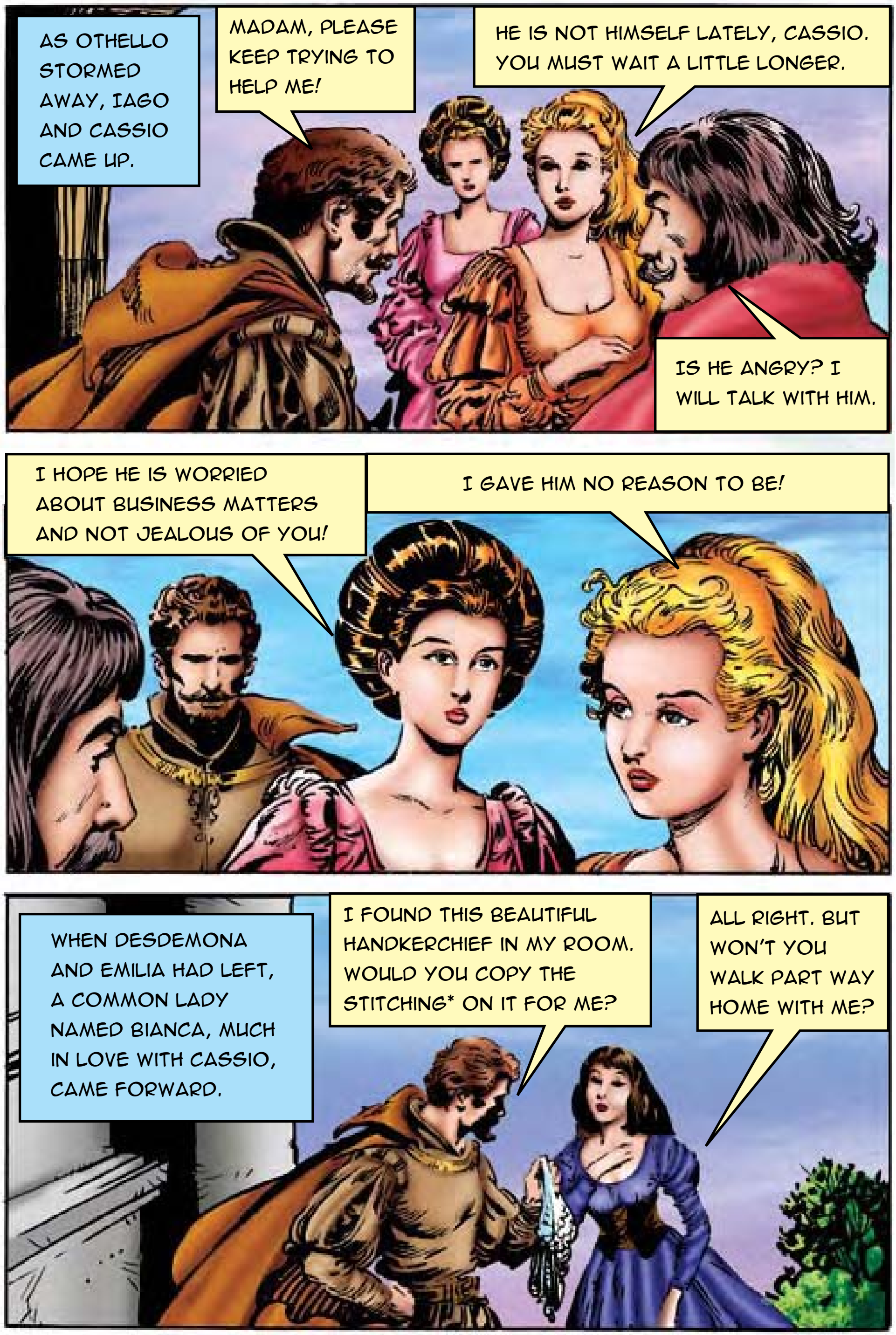


* next in command



* from Egypt, in northern Africa

** someone who has supernatural powers



* patterns worked into something with thread


LATER, WHEN HE MET OTHELLO AGAIN, IAGO WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT OTHELLO WAS STILL VERY ANGRY.
IF I GAVE MY WIFE A HANDKERCHIEF, THEN IT WOULD BE HERS TO GIVE TO WHOMEVER SHE LIKES, WOULDN'T IT?
I WOULD MOST GLADLY HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT! BUT HE *DID* HAVE MY WIFE'S HANDKERCHIEF.
SUPPOSE CASSIO WENT ABOUT BRAGGING THAT HE SLEPT WITH HER?
HAS HE DONE THAT?
OH YES, SIR!
DID HE? I CAN'T STAND THIS ANYMORE!
AND WITH THESE WORDS OTHELLO FAINTED.


AT THAT MOMENT CASSIO CAME UP.
WHAT'S WRONG?
OTHELLO FAINTED, BUT I'M TAKING CARE OF HIM. LEAVE US ALONE FOR A WHILE, AND LATER I WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU.
OTHELLO WOKE IN A FEW MOMENTS.
AFTER YOU FAINTED, CASSIO CAME BY, BUT I SENT HIM AWAY. IF YOU WILL HIDE YOURSELF, I WILL QUESTION HIM ABOUT DESDEMONA WHEN HE RE-TURNS. YOU CAN WATCH HIS FACE EVEN IF YOU CAN'T HEAR WHAT HE SAYS.
ALL RIGHT.
OTHELLO DID AS IAGO SAID. BUT WORSE THINGS WERE ABOUT TO HAPPEN.
NOW I WILL QUESTION CASSIO ABOUT THAT WOMAN, BIANCA, WHO LOVES HIM SO MUCH. OTHELLO WILL THINK HE IS SPEAK-ING ABOUT DESDEMONA.


IN A MOMENT CASSIO WAS BACK.
CASSIO, YOU MUST KEEP ON ASKING DESDEMONA'S HELP. NOW, IF BIANCA WERE HELPING YOU, HOW QUICKLY ALL THIS WOULD GET DONE!
AH, YES, GOOD OLD BIANCA.
LOOK HOW HE SMILES AND LAUGHS IN TALKING ABOUT MY WIFE'S LOVE FOR HIM!
I NEVER SAW A WOMAN SO IN LOVE WITH A MAN!
ALAS, POOR SILLY WOMAN. SHE *DOES* SEEM TO LOVE ME!
I WILL GET EVEN WITH THEM BOTH!



* made a movement with one's hand


WHEN BIANCA AND CASSIO HAD LEFT, OTHELLO CAME FORWARD.
HOW SHALL I MURDER HIM, IAGO?
DID YOU SEE HOW HE LAUGHED ABOUT DESDEMONA?
OH, IAGO!
AND DID YOU SEE HOW HE CARES FOR THE HANDKERCHIEF? HE HAS GIVEN IT TO A VERY COMMON WOMAN!
I WOULD LIKE TO SEE HIM TORTURED FOR NINE YEARS BEFORE HE IS ALLOWED TO DIE! OH, MY SWEET DESDEMONA!
NO, YOU MUST FORGET ABOUT HER!


BUT I ONLY SAY WHAT SHE IS. SHE SEWS SO WELL, AND HER VOICE IS BEAUTIFUL. WHY, SHE COULD SING THE WILDNESS OUT OF A BEAR!
THAT ONLY MAKES IT WORSE!
GET ME SOME POISON, IAGO. I WILL KILL HER THIS VERY NIGHT!
NO, DO NOT USE POISON. STRANGLE* HER IN HER BED!
AND LET ME TAKE CARE OF CASSIO. YOU SHALL HEAR MORE ABOUT THIS BY MIDNIGHT.
VERY GOOD!
JUST THEN A TRUMPET SOUNDED.
WHAT IS THIS?
IT MUST MEAN A VISITOR FROM VENICE.

* choke

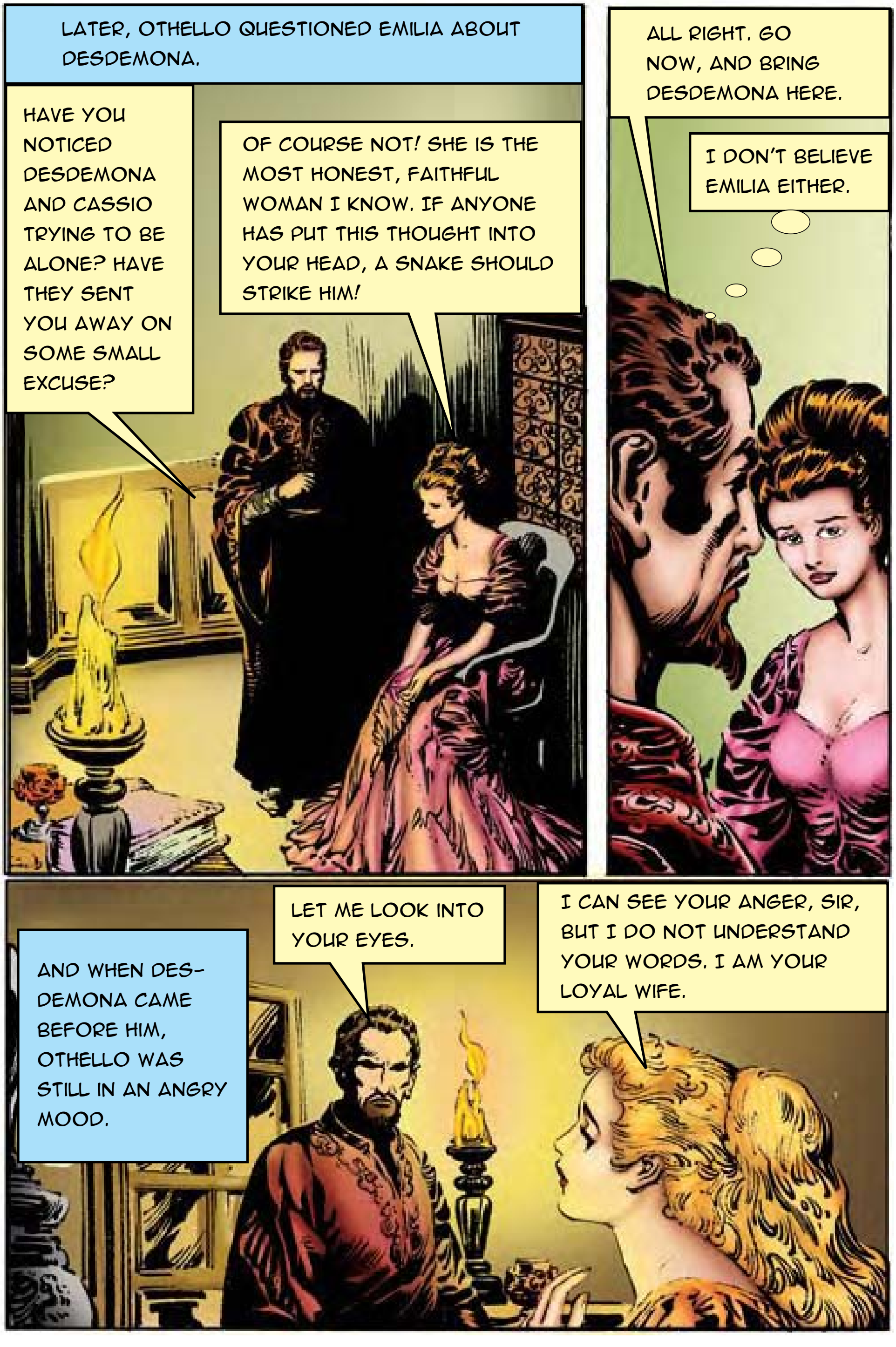


* people belonging to the same family


PARDON ME?
SO—THERE IS A PROBLEM BETWEEN OTHELLO AND CASSIO.
A MOST UNHAPPY ONE. I WOULD DO MUCH TO MAKE THEM FRIENDS AGAIN, FOR THE LOVE I FEEL TOWARD CASSIO!
WHAT?
IS HE ANGRY?
IT MAY BE THE LETTER. HE HAS JUST BEEN ORDERED BACK TO VENICE, AND CASSIO HAS BEEN PUT IN COMMAND HERE IN CYPRUS.
OH, I'M GLAD!


AND AT THAT, BEFORE ALL THE COMPANY, OTHELLO STRUCK DESDEMONA IN THE FACE.
I HAVE NOT DESERVED THIS!
SIR! THIS WOULD NOT BE BELIEVED IN VENICE! BEG HER PARDON! SHE WEEPS!
THEY ARE CROCODILE TEARS.* GET OUT OF MY SIGHT, WOMAN! I'LL SEND FOR YOU LATER.
SIR, I OBEY THE ORDER. I WILL RETURN TO VENICE AND LEAVE CASSIO HERE IN MY PLACE. NOW PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
LODOVICO WAS SHOCKED TO SEE OTHELLO STRIKE DESDEMONA. HE SPOKE TO IAGO.
IS THIS THE NOBLE MOOR OUR SENATE ADMIRES SO?
HE IS MUCH CHANGED. I ONLY HOPE THIS IS THE *WORST* HE DOES!

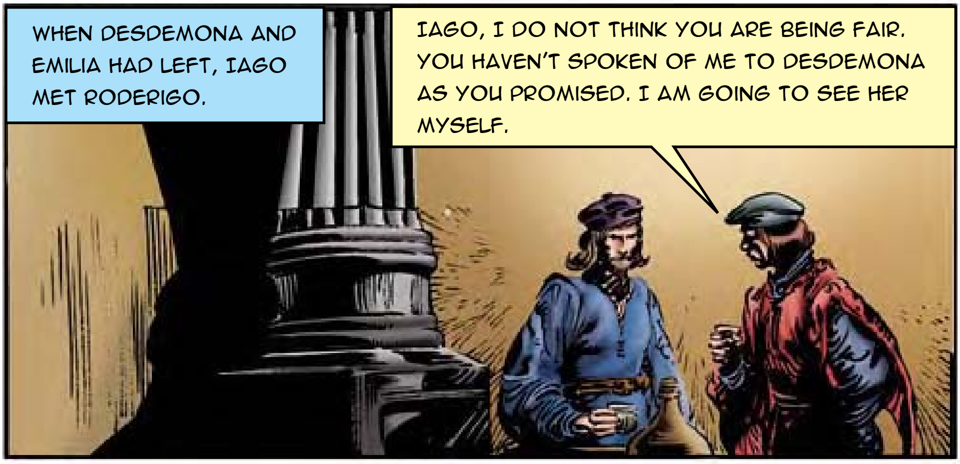
* false tears


LATER, OTHELLO QUESTIONED EMILIA ABOUT DESDEMONA.
HAVE YOU NOTICED DESDEMONA AND CASSIO TRYING TO BE ALONE? HAVE THEY SENT YOU AWAY ON SOME SMALL EXCUSE?
OF COURSE NOT! SHE IS THE MOST HONEST, FAITHFUL WOMAN I KNOW. IF ANYONE HAS PUT THIS THOUGHT INTO YOUR HEAD, A SNAKE SHOULD STRIKE HIM!
ALL RIGHT. GO NOW, AND BRING DESDEMONA HERE.
I DON'T BELIEVE EMILIA EITHER.
AND WHEN DES-DEMONA CAME BEFORE HIM, OTHELLO WAS STILL IN AN ANGRY MOOD.
LET ME LOOK INTO YOUR EYES.
I CAN SEE YOUR ANGER, SIR, BUT I DO NOT UNDERSTAND YOUR WORDS. I AM YOUR LOYAL WIFE.

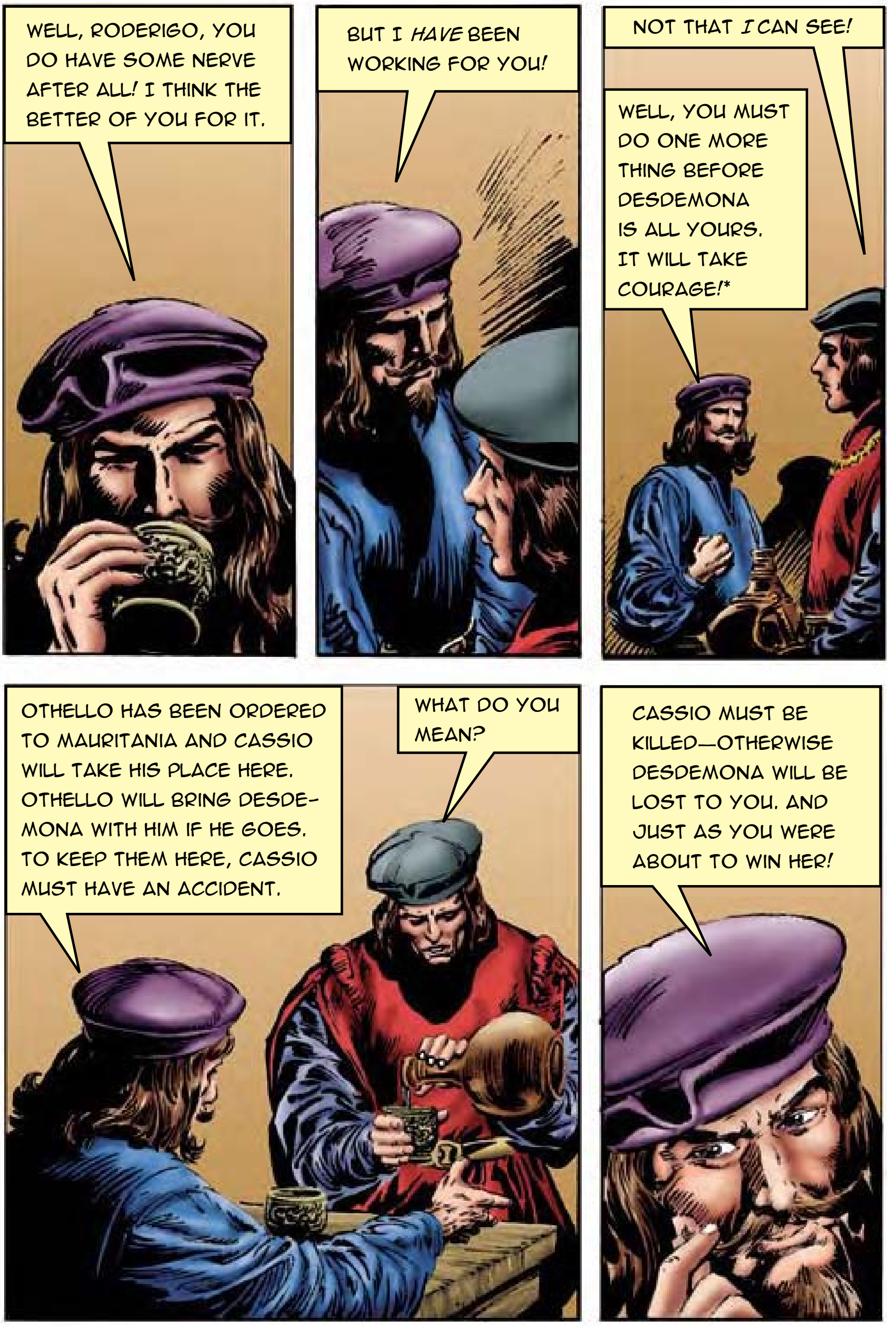

ARE YOU NOT AN UNFAITHFUL WIFE WHO HAS FALLEN IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER MAN?
NEVER! MY ONLY WISH HAS BEEN TO SERVE AND PLEASE YOU!
BUT OTHELLO'S JEALOUSY HAD GONE TOO FAR. DESDEMONA COULD NO LONGER REACH HIM WITH HER SIMPLE WORDS.
GOOD LADY, WHAT IS THE MATTER WITH YOUR HUSBAND?
I NO LONGER HAVE THE HUSBAND I ONCE HAD. PLEASE CALL IAGO, EMILIA. I WOULD LIKE TO TALK WITH HIM.


BUT WHEN IAGO CAME, DESDEMONA WAS WEEPING.
WHAT IS THE MATTER, LADY?
ALAS, IAGO. OTHELLO HAS TOLD HER THAT SHE IS UNTRUE TO HIM. HE IS VERY ANGRY.
HAVE I BEEN UNTRUE IN ANY WAY, IAGO?
DO NOT WEEP, DO NOT WEEP! OF COURSE NOT!
DESDEMONA HAD THE CHANCE TO MARRY MANY NO-BLE MEN. SHE GAVE THEM ALL UP TO MARRY OTHELLO! AND NOW HE CALLS HER UNFAITHFUL!
HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?
PERHAPS SOME EVIL PERSON—IN ORDER TO GAIN SOME HIGH RANK—HAS DONE THIS AWFUL THING!
O GOOD IAGO, WHAT SHALL I DO TO WIN HIM BACK AGAIN? PLEASE GO TO HIM FOR ME!

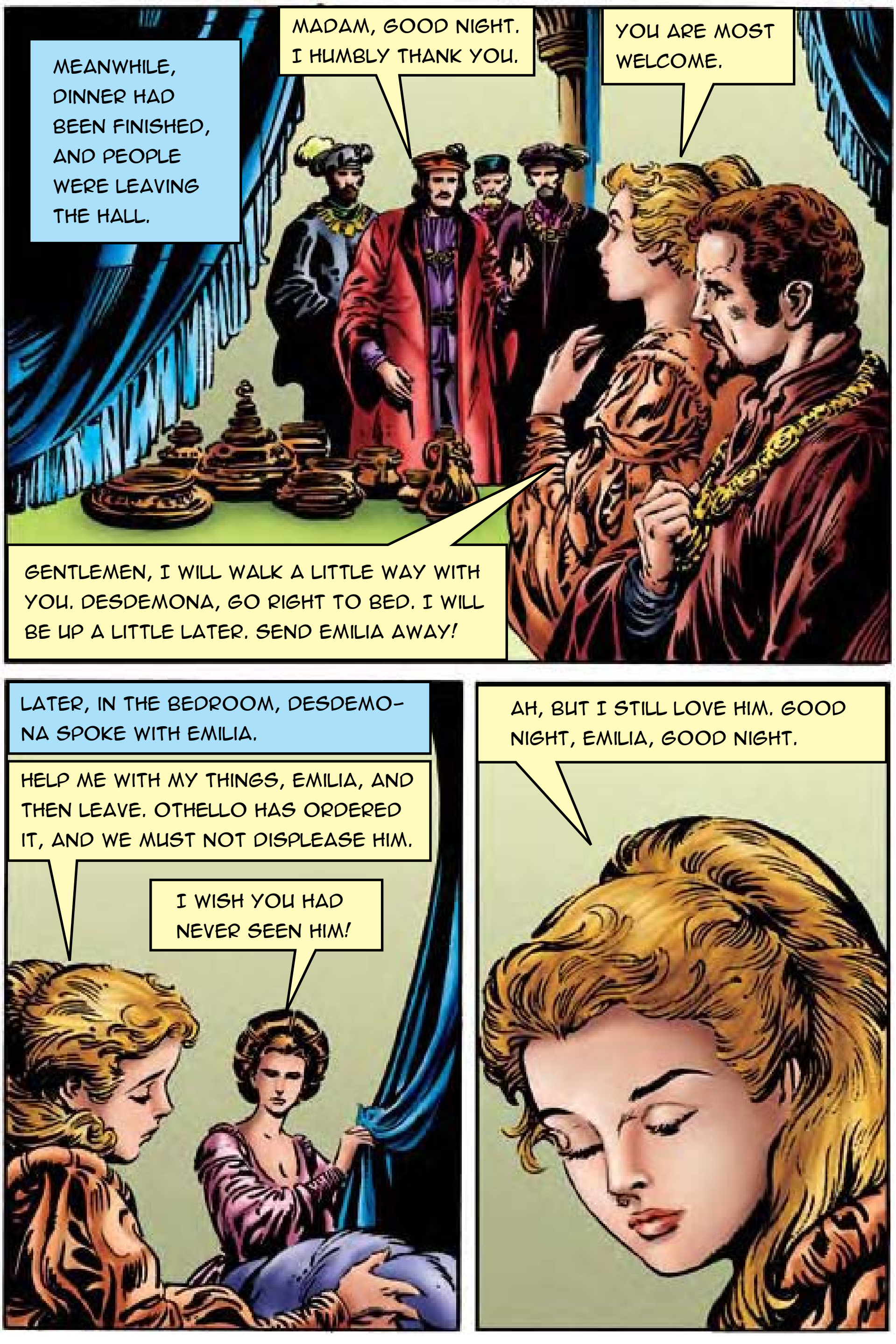

I AM SURE THAT HIS BAD MOOD COMES FROM SOME BUSI-NESS MATTER. AH, I HEAR THE TRUMPETS CALLING YOU TO SUPPER. GO AND EAT. I WILL MAKE EVERYTHING WELL AGAIN!


WHEN DESDEMONA AND EMILIA HAD LEFT, IAGO MET RODERIGO.
IAGO, I DO NOT THINK YOU ARE BEING FAIR. YOU HAVEN'T SPOKEN OF ME TO DESDEMONA AS YOU PROMISED. I AM GOING TO SEE HER MYSELF.


YOU HAVE TAKEN ALL MY JEWELS AS WELL AS MY MONEY. YOU SAID YOU GAVE THE JEWELS TO DESDEMONA, BUT I HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM HER. I WANT MY JEWELS BACK!

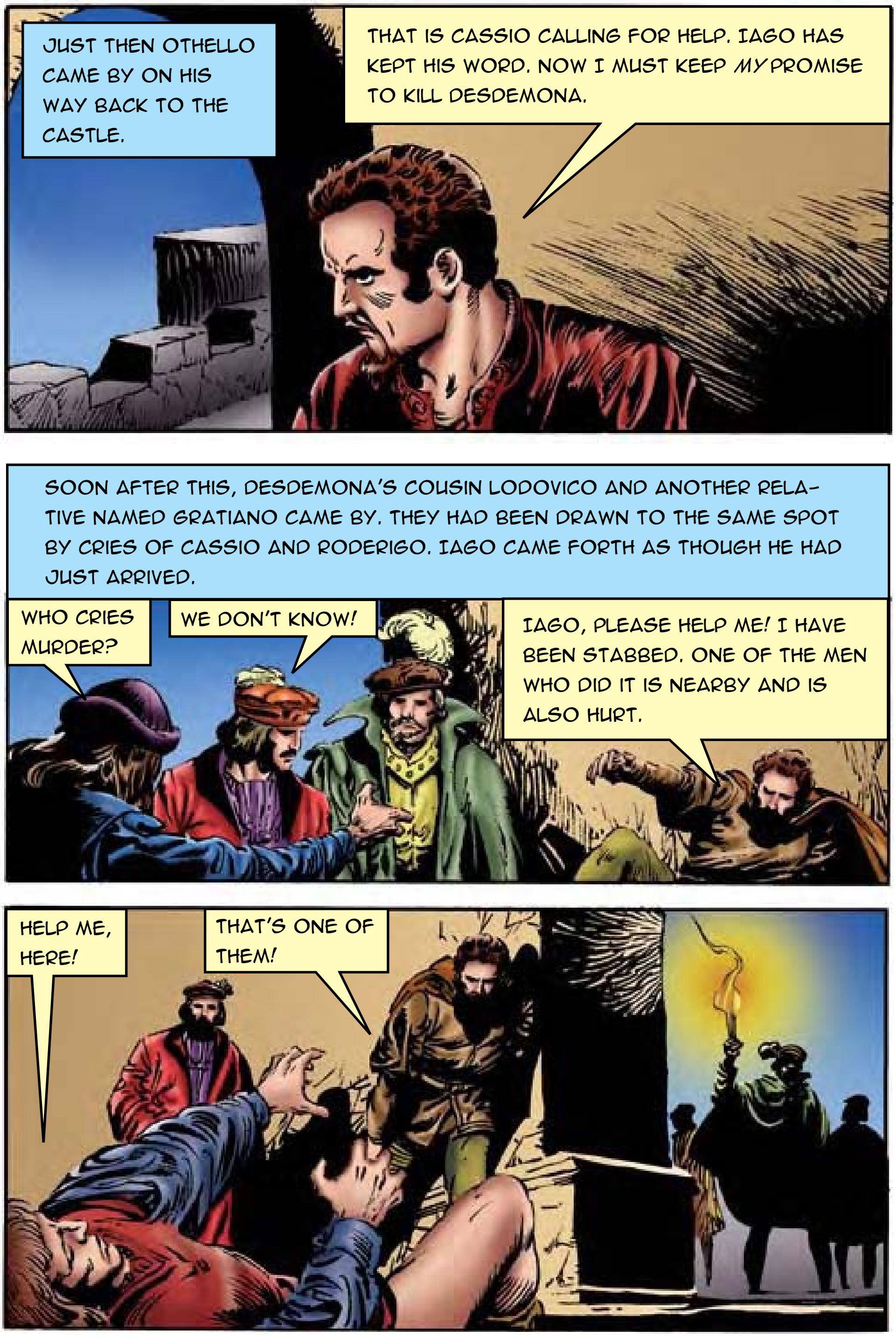


* bravery, daring


MEANWHILE, DINNER HAD BEEN FINISHED, AND PEOPLE WERE LEAVING THE HALL.
MADAM, GOOD NIGHT. I HUMBLY THANK YOU.
YOU ARE MOST WELCOME.
GENTLEMEN, I WILL WALK A LITTLE WAY WITH YOU. DESDEMONA, GO RIGHT TO BED. I WILL BE UP A LITTLE LATER. SEND EMILIA AWAY!
LATER, IN THE BEDROOM, DESDEMONA SPOKE WITH EMILIA.
HELP ME WITH MY THINGS, EMILIA, AND THEN LEAVE. OTHELLO HAS ORDERED IT, AND WE MUST NOT DISPLEASE HIM.
I WISH YOU HAD NEVER SEEN HIM!
AH, BUT I STILL LOVE HIM. GOOD NIGHT, EMILIA, GOOD NIGHT.



* hurt, as with a knife


JUST THEN OTHELLO CAME BY ON HIS WAY BACK TO THE CASTLE.
THAT IS CASSIO CALLING FOR HELP. IAGO HAS KEPT HIS WORD. NOW I MUST KEEP *MY* PROMISE TO KILL DESDEMONA.
SOON AFTER THIS, DESDEMONA'S COUSIN LODOVICO AND ANOTHER RELATIVE NAMED GRATIANO CAME BY. THEY HAD BEEN DRAWN TO THE SAME SPOT BY CRIES OF CASSIO AND RODERIGO. IAGO CAME FORTH AS THOUGH HE HAD JUST ARRIVED.
WHO CRIES MURDER?
WE DON'T KNOW!
IAGO, PLEASE HELP ME! I HAVE BEEN STABBED. ONE OF THE MEN WHO DID IT IS NEARBY AND IS ALSO HURT.
HELP ME, HERE!
THAT'S ONE OF THEM!


QUICKLY, AND WITHOUT BEING SEEN, IAGO STABBED RODERIGO, AND RODERIGO GREW STILL.
WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE WHO KILL MEN IN THE DARK? MURDER! MURDER! WAKE THE TOWNSPEOPLE!
JUST THEN, BIANCA CAME BY AND FOUND CASSIO.
WHO CALLS MURDER? OH, MY DEAR CASSIO!
CASSIO, DO YOU KNOW WHO TRIED TO KILL YOU? THIS WOMAN MAY HAVE BEEN ONE OF THEM!
CASSIO MUST BE CARRIED AWAY TO BE TAKEN CARE OF. BUT GOOD HEAVENS! THE OTHER MAN IS RODERIGO!
I KNOW HIM FROM VENICE!
MEN, CARRY HIM CAREFULLY! CASSIO, DO YOU KNOW WHY RODERIGO WANTED TO KILL YOU?
NOT AT ALL. I DON'T EVEN *KNOW* HIM.



* knowing that someone has done wrong


WHILE ALL THIS WAS TAKING PLACE OUTSIDE THE CASTLE, OTHELLO HAD RETURNED TO HIS BEDROOM AND FOUND DESDEMONA ASLEEP.
YOU ARE THE CAUSE OF IT ALL! BUT I WILL NOT SHED YOUR BLOOD, FOR YOU ARE TOO BEAUTIFUL FOR THAT. STILL. . . YOU MUST DIE!
I WEEP FOR YOU, BUT THEY ARE TEARS THAT HAVE BROUGHT ME TOO MUCH SUFFERING. AH, SHE'S WAKING UP.
WHO'S THERE? OTHELLO!
HAVE YOU PRAYED TONIGHT, DESDEMONA?


YES, DEAR HUSBAND.
IF YOU WANT TO ASK GOD'S PARDON FOR ANYTHING, DO IT NOW. I WOULD NOT WANT TO KILL YOUR SOUL!
ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME? MY ONLY SIN IS THAT OF LOVING YOU TOO MUCH.
WHAT ABOUT THE HANDKERCHIEF I GAVE YOU? YOU GAVE IT TO CASSIO!
I DID NOT! SEND FOR THE MAN AND ASK HIM!
BUT I SAW THE HANDKERCHIEF IN HIS HAND. HE ALSO BRAGGED THAT YOU LOVED HIM!
SEND FOR HIM!
HE IS DEAD! IAGO HAS TAKEN CARE OF THAT.


OH, HUSBAND! LET ME LIVE TONIGHT. . . KILL ME TOMORROW! OR AT LEAST GIVE ME MORE TIME TO PRAY!
NO, THIS IS THE END. I DARE NOT WAIT ANY LONGER.
AS OTHELLO SMOTHERED DESDEMONA, EMILIA'S VOICE WAS HEARD OUTSIDE THE DOOR.
SIR! GENERAL OTHELLO!
WHAT NOISE IS THAT?
SIR, I MUST SPEAK A WORD WITH YOU!
THAT IS EMILIA. SHE'S COME TO TELL ME OF CASSIO'S DEATH.


IF SHE COMES IN SHE'LL SEE THAT MY WIFE IS DEAD! MY WIFE—WHAT WIFE? I NO LONGER HAVE A WIFE!
SIR, I BEG YOU. I MUST SPEAK WITH YOU!
I WILL PULL THE CURTAINS AND OPEN THE DOOR.
COME IN, EMILIA. WHAT'S THE MATTER?
SIR, CASSIO HAS KILLED A YOUNG MAN OF VENICE CALLED RODERIGO.
AND CASSIO IS KILLED?
NO, CASSIO IS NOT KILLED.
OH, WRONGLY, WRONGLY MURDERED!
WHOSE CRY IS THAT?


THAT WAS DESDEMONA'S VOICE! SWEET DESDEMONA, SPEAK! WHO DID THIS TO YOU?
I, MYSELF. FAREWELL!
NO—I KILLED HER!
THEN SHE IS AN ANGEL AND YOU ARE A DEVIL!
SHE WAS FALSE!*
SHE WAS TRUE!
YOUR HUSBAND PROVED TO ME THAT SHE WAS FALSE. HE KNEW IT ALL!
MY HUSBAND?

* unfaithful


IF MY HUSBAND SAID THAT, MAY HIS SOUL ROT FOREVER! YOU MAY KILL ME TOO, BUT I WILL SPEAK THE TRUTH. HELP! HELP! OTHELLO HAS MURDERED HIS WIFE!
AT THAT, PEOPLE RUSHED INTO THE ROOM.
WHAT IS THE MATTER?
IAGO, YOU HAVE DONE IT NOW. THESE MURDERS ALL LEAD BACK TO YOUR PLANNING!
PROVE THAT YOU ARE HONEST IF YOU CAN! OTHELLO SAID YOU TOLD HIM THAT HIS WIFE WAS FALSE!



* having done nothing wrong


IAGO BEGGED ME TO STEAL THE HANDKERCHIEF, BUT I FOUND IT AND GAVE IT TO HIM.
YOU LIE!
WITH THAT, IAGO PLUNGED HIS SWORD INTO EMILIA AND RAN OUT OF THE ROOM.
SOMEONE STAND AT THE DOOR AND GUARD OTHELLO WHILE WE GO AFTER IAGO!
OH DESDEMONA, DESDEMONA!
THE MEN SOON CAME BACK WITH IAGO.
I KNOW YOU ARE A DEVIL, SO I CAN ONLY *HURT* YOU—I CAN'T *KILL* YOU.
TAKE OTHELLO'S SWORD!
AT THIS, CASSIO DREW NEAR AS LODOVICO QUES-TIONED OTHELLO.
DID YOU AND IAGO PLAN TO KILL CASSIO?
YES, WE DID.


DEAR OTHELLO, I NEVER GAVE YOU REASON TO HATE ME SO!
I DO BELIEVE IT NOW. BUT WHY DID IAGO DO THIS TO ME?
WHAT YOU KNOW, YOU KNOW. I WILL NEVER SPEAK AGAIN.


WE WILL MAKE HIM TALK.
WAIT! THE LETTERS FOUND IN RODERIGO'S POCKET SHOW HOW IAGO USED HIM TO STIR UP TROUBLE FOR CASSIO. THEY SAY ALSO THAT IAGO TOOK RODERIGO'S MONEY AND JEWELS, PRETENDING TO GIVE THEM TO DESDEMONA.


CASSIO, HOW DID YOU GET MY WIFE'S HANDKERCHIEF?
I FOUND IT IN MY ROOM. IAGO CONFESSED* THAT HE PUT IT THERE.

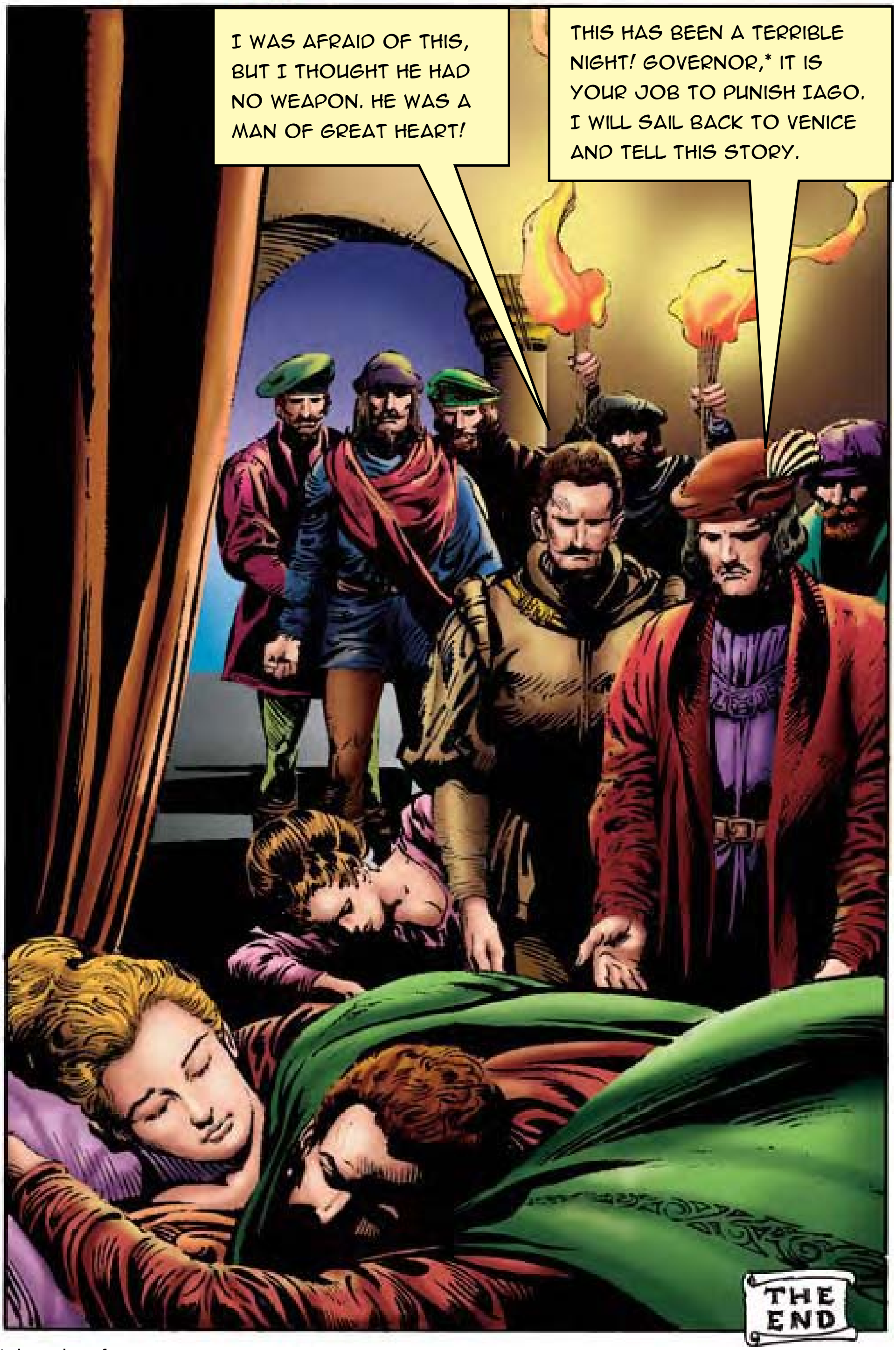
* admitted







* faithfully, well



* the ruler of a state

Othello

A beautiful love story turns to tragedy when jealousy takes root. The powerful general, Othello, finds himself hurting the one person he loves most in the world, his wife, Desdemona, when he misplaces his trust in Iago. Treacherous and vindictive, Iago is enraged at being passed over for a promotion and plots his revenge against Othello setting off a chain of events that ends in the ultimate sacrifice.

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